

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 8-15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Staagen (USPN 6081958).

Van Staagen teaches a cleaning utensil comprising a panel (12) having a top surface, a bottom surface and a peripheral edge extending between the top and bottom surfaces. There is a plurality of bristles (14) attached to and extending away from the bottom surface. There is a silicone gripping member (20) extending upward from the top surface contoured to the shape of a hand. The top surface is rectangular in shape such that the peripheral edge includes a front edge, a back edge, a first side edge and a second side edge. There is further a securing means (16) attached to the panel for securing the hand to the panel. The securing means has a first end and a second end. The first end is attached to the first edge and the second end is attached to the second edge. Though the silicone member is disclosed as a knuckle pad, one could put their hand under the securing means, thereby gripping the silicone member with their palm.

3. Claims 8-9 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bean (USPN 2988049).

Bean teaches a brush comprising a rigid flat panel having a top surface, a bottom surface, and a peripheral edge extending between the top and bottom surfaces. There is a plurality of